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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Application No.: 09/528,356
Applicant(s): Masahito NIIKAWA and Hiroaki KUBO
For: DRIVING DEVICE AND INFORMATION PROCESSING
DEVICE FOR A DATA STORAGE MEDIUM
Confirmation No.: 6551
Customer No.: 24367
Docket No.: 15162/01640
Filed: March 17, 2000
Group Art Unit: 2673
Examiner: Kent Wu Chang

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Technology Center 2600

MS APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

August 24, 2004

Date of Deposit

Douglas A. Sorensen

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

Signature

August 24, 2004

Date of Signature

REPLY BRIEF FOR APPELLANTS

This Reply Brief is filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.193(b) in response to the Examiner's Answer entered February 24, 2004. A four month extension of time is filed herewith. Thus, after the extension, this reply is due by August 24, 2004.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
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Application No. 09/528,356
Reply Brief for Appellants dated August 24, 2004
Reply to Examiner's Answer of February 24, 2004

REPLY TO EXAMINER'S ANSWER

In his Answer, the Examiner states:

Bloch also suggests to use [a] large LCD display capable of 640x200 pixels, which can also be used for display games, toys and other consumer products (column 5, lines 45-52) for displaying information such as file name, labeling information, and any other relevant associated information (columns[sic] 3, lines 32-38, column 10, lines 15-21).

The Examiner then assumes that this suggests display of graphical elements.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to used the device of Bloch to display an image such as a disk volume labeling graphic, or a thumbnail image of the image data as suggest[ed] by Bloch...

However, Bloch provides no such suggestion . In the only place where this size of LCD is discussed, Bloch specifically states that:

All numbers and most letters can be displayed on this matrix, however, if desired a twelve-segment display or a five by seven array can be used to generate all numbers and all letters. A wide variety of flat panel displays can be made with liquid crystal display technology. Large liquid crystal displays capable of 640x200 pixels and beyond have also been developed. These displays can show 25 lines by 80 characters. (column 5, lines 41-48)

Thus, Bloch never provided any suggestion that this display be used for anything other than the display of characters.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing and Appellants' Appeal Brief, no *prima facie* case of obviousness has been established with regard to any of Claims 1-10, 12-24, 26 and 27.

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Accordingly, Appellants respectfully request the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences to reverse the Examiner's rejections as to all of the appealed claims.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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